

Diversity Council Minutes – Wed. September 14, 2005

Presiding:

Gordon Flake, committee chair

Members Present:

Janice Allen, Alyce Bradbury, Sharon Bryant, Gordon Flake, Rodrigo Franco, David Goulding, Ginny Ivanoff (OEEO, non-voting), Ethel Jackson, Bill Jirles, Charle League, Alicia Moore, Qb Quattlebaum, Boris Risek, Bill Steinmetz, and Linda Yu

Members Absent:

Kathy Ahlmark, (alternate), Cliff Baldwin, William Boyd, Alyce Bradbury, Veronica Godfrey (BIG, non-voting), Ron Herbert (NIH catalyst, non-voting), Mike Humble, Jackie Locklear, Lisa Rogers, Gerard Roman (OEEO, non-voting), Molly Vallant (non-voting)

Old Business

A. Minutes

The June 08, 2005 minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously.

B. Reports

1. Resignation/New Member: Harriet Kinyamu resigned during the month of July. Janice Allen was welcomed as a regular member of the Council.

2. La Fiesta Del Pueblo: Linda Yu reported an excellent turnout for the event, which NIEHS participates in to promote health in the local Latino community. Linda, Gerard Roman, and their volunteers worked the two day festival

3. Labor Day Presentation: James Andrews, President of the NC AFL-CIO spoke on August 26. Bill Jirles reported the turnout was light (25), but very well received. This was the first event co-sponsored by the Council and the union and may become an annual event.

4. Hispanic Heritage Committee: Dr. Lydia Villa-Komaroff is set to be the speaker on Sept. 29. She has a very tight schedule, but will be able to meet with the students that will be visiting the Institute:
12:00 – 1:00: pm in the Exec. Conf. Room
1:30 – 2:30: her talk and meet with the visiting students immediately after her talk
2:30 – 4:00 (approx): Peruvian Dance Troupe, Mexican Folklore dance, and the reception
No AV equipment is needed for her talk.

5. Disability Awareness Month:

Oct. 11: Mark Ezzell's talk: "Bringing your Wheelchair to Mt. Everest..." followed by the M&M Singers and snacks/punch.

Oct. 26: Stem-Cell Research Symposium: Featuring Sam Maddox, of the Christopher Reeves Foundation, Ray Tennant, Allen Verhey (Duke U. Divinity School), Carlos Castro, U. Pittsburgh, David Resnik, and Baldwin Wong, NIDCD. They will participate in a daylong seminar and panel discussion.

6. Disability Advocacy Committee: An internal assessment on internal accessibility was done in August by a representative of NC Vocational Rehab. The DAC has not received the report back yet. A wheelchair accessible table was purchased by the Library. The scooter that the DAC recommended is on order.

7. Native American Subcommittee: November 18 is the date for the talk. Dr. Steve Davis, UNC (Carolina Speakers Bureau) will be the speaker. Dr. Davis is a Research Archaeologist and has a couple of topics that could be presented. The subcommittee is looking for a storyteller and some craft ideas for a separate event. The food sampling would occur at this event.

New Business

1. International Day Subcommittee: The subcommittee is called to meet. Linda Yu is the chair.

2. MLK/Black History Month: This subcommittee is called to meet. Boris Risek is the chair. He will contact the local chapter of BIG (Blacks in Government) to discuss possible working together on this project.

3. Video: Gordon Flake showed the Council a short video from Johns Hopkins University, "Building a Tractor for the Mobility Impaired." The film was about an engineering class' ideas and insights with their project of converting a tractor to be accessible to the disabled to be used in a local county park that is a working farm.

Adjourn:

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Ginny Ivanoff, 9/14/05.